

December 8, 1967

Hon. Charles Gubser  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gubser:

If I may, let me start this letter by reminding you of a brief meeting that we had, perhaps a year ago, at Stanford Medical School. One of the topics of discussion was the need to convey to the public at large the importance of a solid base for medical research if we were to continue to deserve the dedication of federal funds for this. I was also pleased to see the report that you read into the record concerning the international medical project that Mr. Klein was involved in recently.

At that time we did discuss briefly the columns that I have been writing weekly for the Washington Post and brought up the possibility that you might be able to introduce the matter to the Editor of the San Jose Mercury. Editors are so busy and operate on such a hectic schedule that I have found it quite difficult to attract their interest to consider a question like this without the benefit of some personal intervention, which is not to say that I would ask for any strong recommendation about what kind of decision they should reach. If, however, you have had occasion to read these columns at all as they appeared in the Washington Post for the last year, where they are printed every Saturday, you may be in a position to tell the Editor something about it.

I am particularly eager to have an outlet for this column in my own home area since I have so many friends who I believe are deeply interested in a chance to see them on a regular basis. At the present time, there are about a half a dozen newspapers throughout the world that carry it but paradoxically none of them right around here.

Besides my personal interest in having a local outlet, our home community must be one of the best educated and one of the most interested in the human impact of science and technology of any anywhere in the world in view of the concentration of Stanford University and the industrial research laboratories in this district. It therefore may even be a small

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public service to have this kind of commentary made available to such a community.

At any rate, I would be very grateful to you for any good offices you can do in this matter without putting yourself to any undue trouble.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

JL:lh